



Granite Bay FC Ghosts & Goals 2023

Tournament Rules

1. Sportsmanship and Conduct

Good sportsmanship is expected of all teams, officials and spectators at all times. Coaches and Team Managers are responsible for the conduct of their team's players, staff, parents and affiliated spectators.

A coach may not enter the field of play except on a referee's signal. Coaches, players, and spectators shall not harangue, harass, or attempt to distract players or referees. Offensive, insulting, and abusive language will not be tolerated. Breaking these rules will result in a warning, to be followed by ejection if the unacceptable behavior does not stop immediately. The Tournament Director will determine final appropriate disciplinary action.

The Granite Bay FC is a Positive Coaching Alliance Club.

2. Teams Acceptance and Placement in Flights and Brackets

Teams will be accepted based on prior results and/or records. Team's placement in flights and brackets is done in good faith based on available ranking information. Specific division placement cannot be guaranteed. Withdrawal due to disagreement with the placement will not entitle the team to any refund.

3. Guest Player Policy

A maximum of three (3) guest players will be permitted for this tournament. Guest players will be allowed in accordance with US Club Guest Player Policies and shall be rostered for the team for whom the player is guest playing. Teams other than US Club teams must abide by the US Club guest player policies. Guest players attending a US Club Tournament with another State Association, U.S. Soccer Affiliate or foreign teams must have a valid member pass, consent for medical treatment form, and be listed on the appropriate travel forms signed by the coach authorizing the guest player to play. Guest players must use credentials from the same season as those being used by the team with which they are playing.

Teams using guest players shall add them to their roster in gotsport.com by Monday, October 23, 2023. Those that are unable to register their guest players in gotsport.com, shall notify the Tournament Director by end of day, Monday, October 23, 2023 at tournaments@granitebayfc.com and send copy of the guest player pass, medical treatment form, and signed guest player form. Team shall bring all the necessary forms and credentials to the tournament.

Guest players may only play on one team during the tournament. If a guest player plays on more than one team, the team using the guest player who has not been rostered for their team shall forfeit the games they used the guest player. If the

guest player plays for more than one team, but has not been rostered for either team, both teams will forfeit the games they used the guest player.

4. Mandatory Check-in

Each team is required to have their team credentials validated. By submitting your tournament roster by Monday October 23, 2023, you are verifying that you have all of the proper documents per player on your roster (valid player pass, medical waivers, guest player signed form). Please also keep these on hand throughout the tournament and for field check in prior to games. Rosters will be locked/frozen at 10pm on Monday October 23, 2023.

Teams are also required to check in their players 30 minutes prior to the start of each game, at the location where their game is being played, and must present their player passes again at that time.

5. Player's Equipment

- a. Safety – A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to themselves or another player (including all jewelry).
- b. Casts & Braces – No orthopedic (hard) casts, air splints or metal splints may be worn during the game. Players will be allowed to play in a soft cast at the discretion of the Referee. Wearing a brace is also strongly discouraged during games. However, if the brace is necessary, the referee will need to review it to determine if the brace can be potentially harmful to the player wearing it or other players. Elastic-type supports without any metal, carbon fiber, hard plastic or like devices are normally permitted, however any metal, metal-like, or plastic brace supports are to be properly covered during play.
- c. Jewelry – Absolutely no jewelry, including rings, chains, watches, jewelry, hair clips, bobby pins, earrings or other piercings, bracelets or Lance Armstrong type rubber bracelets. Only Medical Alert Warning Bracelets may be worn, and shall be taped to secure them to the player's body. Fingernails must be cut short and not extend beyond the finger line while participating in any games.
- d. Shin guards – All players are required to use shin guards at all times. They must be worn properly and be professionally manufactured and unaltered. No shin guards – No play! Socks must match teammates and must completely cover shin guards.
- e. Eyeglasses – Players who must wear eyeglasses are encouraged to wear sports goggles. Players must wear glasses that are safe. Lenses must be unbreakable and frames must be unbreakable plastic or sturdy metal.
- f. Uniform – Uniforms must be the same for all players on the team. Jerseys must remain tucked inside their shorts. If undergarments are worn, the color of the sleeve should be the same main color as the sleeve of the jersey or shirt, and undershorts or tights must be the same main color as the shorts. There should not be any loose strings or ribbons anywhere on the uniform, even if it is in a Halloween theme.
- g. Player Numbers – Each player shall have a unique number for the team. Numbers shall be prominently displayed on jersey or shorts.
- h. Stockings/Socks – If tape, or similar material, is applied externally it must be the same color as that part of the stocking to which it is applied.

- i. Technical Area – Both team benches to be on the same side of the field, and the opposite side of the field from the spectators.

6. Home vs. Visiting Team

The team listed first on the game schedule is the home team and shall have their choice of the side of the field. The visiting team will get the kick off to start the game. Teams and their fans will sit on opposite sides of the field. Home team has first choice of side. You may refer to the diagram on this link.

[GBFC - Field Seating Guidelines \(granitebayfc.com\)](http://granitebayfc.com)

Conflicts in jersey color will be resolved by requiring the home team to change jerseys. A tournament official and/or referee will determine if there is a conflict in jersey colors or keeper jersey colors.

The home team shall be responsible for providing 3 games balls for the game.

7. Start Times and Forfeitures

Teams must be at the field 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of their game in order to be checked in by the referees or appointed tournament officials. Games will be started within 5 minutes of the designated start time. If a team has not taken the field with a minimum of 5 players for U9, 7 players for U10 and U11, and 9 players for U13 and U14 games within the 5-minute grace period, the game will be forfeited to the team that has taken the field with the minimum number of players required. If neither team takes the field within the 5-minute grace period, no points will be awarded to either team and the game will be declared a double forfeit.

The referee may terminate a game and award a forfeit if a team leaves the field during the game without the approval of the referee, the referee abandons the game due to excessive violent conduct and/or misconduct by the players, coaches or fans, or a team is deemed to be in gross violation of US Youth Soccer rules, US Club Soccer rules, or rules of this tournament.

8. Length of Games and Half Time period

| Age Group | Preliminary Games |
|------------------|--|
| U-9 and U-10 | 25 minute halves/5 minute half time period |
| U-11 and U-12 | 25 minute halves/5 minute half time period |
| U-13 and U-14 | 30 minute halves/5 minute half time period |

| Age Group | Championship Games |
|------------------|---|
| U-9 and U-10 | 25 minute halves/5 minute half time period |
| U-11 and U-12 | 25 minute halves/5 minute half time period U-13 and |
| U-14 | 30 minute halves/5 minute half time period |

In preliminary games ties will stand. If a semi-final or championship game is tied at the end of regulation play, two 5-minute overtime periods will be played. If still tied at the completion of the overtime periods, the game will be decided by kicks from the penalty mark, as per FIFA laws of the game. At the discretion of the Tournament Committee, overtime periods may be shortened or eliminated if the game has been significantly delayed at the start. The length of any game may be shortened to shorter but equal halves if the Tournament Committee deems it necessary due to

field conditions, weather or darkness

9. Playing Rules

All games will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws as modified by US Club rules or amended by these tournament rules. All games are FINAL – NO PROTESTS WILL BE ALLOWED.

All teams will be scheduled to play a minimum of three preliminary games except in the case if there is a Semi-Final Game. A game that is scheduled and not played due to forfeiture counts as a scheduled game, as we cannot prevent unforeseen forfeiture. Referees will be instructed to refrain from adding time to the game clock due to injury or other delays except under very special or critical circumstances. There will be no overtime in preliminary games – all ties will stand.

Coaching is permitted from the team bench area ONLY, which shall be no more than 10 yards from the center-line, in either direction. Fans and spectators shall stay clear of the area designated for coaches and players at all times.

10.Heading Game Rule

For U11 and below, when a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If a player does not deliberately head the ball, then play should continue.

This rule shall apply to the age groups of U11 and below. Players who are playing up will play according to the rules of the age group in which they are playing. It is the club's responsibility to understand the effects of this rule on players playing up.

11.Substitutions

As per FIFA guidelines, unlimited substitutions are allowed. However, teams may substitute only with the referee's permission. Substitutes must wait on the sideline (off of the field of play) until the field player has left the field of play to the nearest touchline and/or the referee has indicated the substitute may enter the field of play.

Substitutions by either team are allowed at any stoppage of play with the permission of the referee. Referees will be instructed not to allow substitutions that are deemed "excessive" or of a "time wasting" nature. Please be respectful of the integrity of the game and do not use the free substitution rules as a means to disrupt the match.

12.Scoring System

The maximum number of points allowable per game is 10. Points are awarded as follows: 6 points for a win

3 points for a tie

1 Bonus point for a shutout win

- 1 bonus points for 0-0 ties
- 1 point per goal up to a maximum of three per game
- 1 point deducted for excessive goal differential. (1 point for every goal over a 6-goal margin.)
- 2 point deduction for coach red card/game ejection

For forfeited games, a score of 2-0 will be awarded in favor of the team that did not forfeit.

13.Ejections

A player receiving two yellow cards in a single game is considered the same as receiving a red card. A player given a red card or two yellow cards in one game shall be expelled from that game and shall not be replaced. A team's coach may be sent off for the conduct of the team's fans and parents.

Any player, coach, assistant coach, or registered team official receiving a send-off (red card) will automatically be suspended from their next tournament game. The Tournament Director will review the send-off report and determine, based on the circumstances, if any additional suspension should be added. The Tournament Committee will have the authority to extend the suspension as deemed necessary.

14.Brackets/Awards

Flights shall consist of brackets of 3 or more teams. Barring a team forfeiting or dropping from the tournament, each team shall play a minimum of 3 games. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to amend brackets and games to accommodate unexpected changes, i.e., team no-show.

Four team flights: Will consist of one bracket of four teams. Each team will play the other three teams in their bracket. The top two teams with the most points will advance to the Championship game.

Six team flights: Will consist of two brackets of three teams. Each team shall play a two game preliminary round. The first and second place point earners after the preliminary round shall advance to a semifinal game to determine who advances to the Championship game.

Eight team flights: Will consist of two brackets of four teams. Each team will play three preliminary round games against the other teams in their bracket. The top team from each bracket with the most points will advance to the Championship game.

Awards for the first and second place teams will be given following the conclusion of the Championship game.

ALL GAME RESULTS WILL BE CONSIDERED FINAL AND NO PROTEST OF THEIR OUTCOME IS ALLOWED

15.Tie Breaking Procedure

In case of a tie in tournament points following the completion of preliminary games, the advancing teams will be determined based on the following criteria in the order specified:

- a. Head to Head competition—team that won the head to head competition between the teams that are tied will advance. Should there be a tie in

tournament points between three or more teams, the tie-breaking procedure begins with (b), below.

- b. When and if only two teams remain tied at any point while using this procedure, the order of tie-breaking will recommence at (a), above. c. Team with the fewest losses advances
- d. Team with the highest goal differential advances (goals scored by a team, minus goals allowed by a team, not to exceed a differential of 4 goals in any one game)
- e. Team with fewest goals allowed advances
- f. Team with most goals scored advances (not to exceed 4 goals counter for any one game)
- g. Team with fewest send-offs advances
- h. If teams are still tied:
 - i. If two teams are tied, advancement will be determined by shots-from-the mark, as per FIFA laws of the game. The team with the most successful kicks advances. Alternatively, if both teams agree, a coin toss conducted by a tournament official or referee can determine advancement.
 - ii. If three or more teams are tied, a series of coin tosses conducted by a tournament official or referee will determine advancement.
- i. In all cases, the Tournament Director will settle disputes and the decision is final.

16.Prohibitions

Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances is expressly prohibited at any of the sport fields or complexes. Any team (including players, coaches, parents and affiliated spectators) found violating these rules will automatically forfeit all games played, face possible expulsion from the tournament and will not be invited to any future tournaments hosted by this league. Use of tobacco products is prohibited at this tournament. Use of tobacco products on the grounds of any public school facility is a violation of California State Law.

Pets are prohibited. Referees will be instructed to abandon a game if, after being asked to do so, any person affiliated with the team refuses to remove a pet from the area of the soccer field, or if after being asked to do so, any person affiliated with the team refuses to cease the use of tobacco products in the area of the soccer field.

All portable Shelters (EZ ups, tents, etc.) must be secured with either stakes or sandbags. No stakes on turf surfaces.

No Littering – Please respect the fields made available to the tournament. At the conclusion of your games, please collect and dispose of all garbage generated by your team in trash receptacles.

17.Tournament Information/Policies

a. Tournament Director Information

Tournament Directors:

For any questions, issues or concerns, please go to the field marshal for satellite fields and the Maidu check in tent. (Bob Sims can help you)

Email Address: tournaments@granitebayfc.com

b. US Club Application Policies/Procedures

Teams may apply to only one tournament per weekend unless they have received a rejection notification from a tournament OR they properly withdraw from a tournament. Teams that inappropriately apply to more than one tournament on a given weekend face financial and disciplinary sanctions by the District and/or Cal North or US Club. Teams may play in only one age group/gender classification in any given tournament on one weekend. The tournament has the right to close any and all age groups that are completely full prior to the application deadline. The tournament may eliminate a division if a lack of sufficient number of applicants for that division is received. Teams will be notified of a division closing within seven days following the application deadline.

Tournament application deadline: October 4, 2023

Notification of team acceptance or rejection will be sent to every timely applicant by October 6, 2023.

Rejected teams entry fees will be refunded on the date the rejection notice is sent to the team.

Selection process is based on first come first in and by competitive balance. *c. Refund Policy*

When the tournament has properly notified a team of their acceptance, the tournament is entitled to retain the entire entry fee for a team requesting withdrawal from their tournament.

d. US Club Withdrawal Policies/Procedures

A team wishing to withdraw from a tournament must send a written notification to the Tournament Director (this may include email) of their decision to withdraw not later than 14 days prior to the start of the tournament. Failure to do so may result in a minimum \$300 team penalty assessed by the tournament, as well as forfeiture of tournament fees. Teams that have submitted a timely application and that have not received notification from a Tournament Director of the acceptance or rejection six weeks prior to the tournament may withdraw without penalty and apply to another tournament and the team's entry fee will be refunded in full. The Tournament Director will provide written acknowledgement of the withdrawal to the team, which will include directions regarding any financial consequences and/or penalties associated with the team's withdrawal.

e. Injuries and Medical Assistance

Any injuries must be reported to a tournament official so that an accident report form can be completed. A tournament official will call 911 for an injury at the coach's or parent's request.

f. Weather Conditions

If deemed necessary by the Tournament Committee, games may be shortened or canceled due to extreme weather conditions.

g. Tournament Cancellation

If the tournament must be canceled due to inclement weather, acts of civil

disobedience, war, destruction of facilities or other circumstances deemed by the US Club Tournament Committee to be beyond the control of the hosting league, the tournament may retain up to 30% of the entry fee once the tournament expenses are verified and approved by the US Club Tournament Committee Chairman. Refunds of no less than 70% of the team's entry fee will be postmarked and mailed to the teams within 45 days of the approved tournament date.

h. Team Infractions

Infractions apply to offenses committed by teams that have been officially accepted to tournaments. A team is considered formally accepted into a tournament when it receives a timely acceptance notice. At the tournament's discretion, an Infraction Report may be filed and penalties and fines may be levied against the offending team. Teams may be penalized for an infraction when the following criteria is met:

1. Late withdrawal
2. Game forfeiture
3. Submitting applications to multiple tournaments on one weekend
4. Use of falsified credentials
5. Allowing an ineligible, uncredentialed or improperly credentialed player to participate

When the tournament chooses to file an Infraction Report with Cal North or US Club, the team will forfeit its entry fee and be fined \$300 for a first violation. Subsequent violations may result in a team being placed in bad standing or other sanctions. *i.*

Tournament Committee

The tournament committee shall consist of the Tournament Director and any other pre-designated tournament officials.